

# SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 1, 2026

**St. Sebastian Catholic Parish** in Fort Lauderdale, Inc. (954)524-9344



## **MASSES**

Saturday 5 pm (Sunday Vigil)  
Sunday 8:30 am, 11 am & 6 pm

## **Weekdays**

8:30 am (Mon. through Fri. )

## **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

**Lunch: 1:00 pm—1:30 pm**

## **Pastor**

**Rev. Ernest Biriruka**

## **Office Staff**

Francy Gonzalez-Rojas

Kathryn Cabrisas

Judy Fisher

## **Director of Music**

Peter J. Manfredi, Jr.  
(954) 868-6137

## **Vocalist**

Cathy Spitzer

## **Facilities**

Patricio Diaz-Pizarro

## **Pastoral Council**

Nancy Adams

Mauricio Bautista

Judy Fisher

Rosemary Guerin

John Mann, III

Johnny Mann, Jr.

Sandi Mann

Ed Rebholz

## **THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Is arranged by appointment. Please call the office.

## **THE SACRAMENT OF**

## **RECONCILIATION** (Confession)

4:00-4:45 pm on Saturday, or by appointment.

## **THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK**

Please call the office as soon as anyone is seriously ill.

## **THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**

Please contact the office at least six months in advance of the proposed wedding date.

## **PARISH REGISTRATION**

If you haven't registered yet as a parishioner of St. Sebastian, we invite you to do so in order to be recognized as a member of our parish.

You can find the registration form in the church, at the office, or online.

## **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**



Takes place in our **Chapel of the Divine Healer** on **Fridays** after morning Mass until 5:00 pm.

We still need adorers of the **Holy Eucharist** for the following times: 1-2 pm, 2-3 pm & 3-4 pm.

Please contact the office if you are able to come to any of those hours.

## **Mission Statement**

We, the family of St. Sebastian Parish, are a stewardship parish, sharing God's Gifts. We are the hands and feet of Christ on Earth. In union with the Universal Roman Catholic Church, we endeavor to become a prayerful and unified community deeply committed to Jesus Christ, and loving service in His name. We hope to be a welcoming, caring and friendly Parish Family, wherein the gifts and talents of all - young and old - are recognized, nurtured and used to build the Kingdom of God in the world.

**THE TRANSFIGURATION**

On this second weekend of Lent, the Gospel reminds us of our Lord's Transfiguration. After the transfiguration, Jesus told his three witnesses, Peter, James and John, that he was going to suffer the passion, die and rise on the 3rd day. This was very important because the transfiguration meant not only to manifest his divine glory to his disciples, but also to strengthen them in their faith, that as Son of God, he will overcome death and recover his divine glory. Dying on the cross was the worse punishment and a terrible scandal. So, it was unthinkable for them that the Messiah would suffer death on the cross, but Jesus did. So his transfiguration was meant to tell them that they should not forget about who he is, the Beloved Son of God to whom we should listen, who came to offer his life as ransom for our salvation. Thus Jesus teaches that we too must undergo the cross before the glory of the resurrection. After the trials and sufferings in this world, we hope to share the eternal glory with the Son of God and be transfigured in his image.

**EXTRACTS FROM THE CATHECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH #554 to #556****A foretaste of the kingdom: the Transfiguration**

"From the day Peter confessed that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, the Master "began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things. . . and be killed, and on the third day be raised." Peter scorns this prediction, nor do the others understand it any better than he. In this context, the mysterious episode of Jesus' Transfiguration takes place on a high mountain, before three witnesses chosen by himself: Peter, James and John. Jesus' face and clothes become dazzling with light, and Moses and Elijah appear, speaking "of his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem". A cloud covers him and a voice from heaven says: "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"

For a moment Jesus discloses his divine glory, confirming Peter's confession. He also reveals that he will have to go by the way of the cross at Jerusalem in order to "enter into his glory".

Moses and Elijah had seen God's glory on the Mountain; the Law and the Prophets had announced the Messiah's sufferings. Christ's Passion is the will of the Father: the Son acts as God's servant; The cloud indicates the presence of the Holy Spirit. "The whole Trinity appeared: the Father in the voice; the Son in the man; the Spirit in the shining cloud."

You were transfigured on the mountain, and your disciples, as much as they were capable of it, beheld your glory, O Christ our God, so that when they should see you crucified they would understand that your Passion was voluntary, and proclaim to the world that you truly are the splendour of the Father.

On the threshold of the public life: the baptism; on the threshold of the Passover: the Transfiguration. Jesus' baptism proclaimed "the mystery of the first regeneration", namely, our Baptism; the Transfiguration "is the sacrament of the second regeneration": our own Resurrection. From now on we share in the Lord's Resurrection through the Spirit who acts in the sacraments of the Body of Christ. the Transfiguration gives us a foretaste of Christ's glorious coming, when he "will change our lowly body to be like his glorious body." But it also recalls that "it is through many persecutions that we must enter the kingdom of God."

Peter did not yet understand this when he wanted to remain with Christ on the mountain. It has been reserved for you, Peter, but for after death. For now, Jesus says: "Go down to toil on earth, to serve on earth, to be scorned and crucified on earth. Life goes down to be killed; Bread goes down to suffer hunger; the Way goes down to be exhausted on his journey; the Spring goes down to suffer thirst; and you refuse to suffer?"

**Father Ernest****Happy Lenten Season!**

Mass Intentions

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 28</b>
5:00 pm	† Joan Fuccillo, by Family † Bill Poulson, by The Jarchow Family † John Lewandoski, by The Jarchow Family Wellbeing of Donald Bourke, by Grace Middlemiss
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 1</b>
8:30 am	† William Poulson, by Sandi and Johnny Mann † Sister Patricia Switzer, by Nancy Adams † Sister Mary Marvin, by Nancy Adams † Robert "Bob" Van Epps, by St. Sebastian Parish
11:00 am	† Living & Deceased Members of our Parish
6:00 pm	† Msgr. Patrick S. McDonell
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 2</b>
8:30 am	† Richard Rodriguez, by Pat and Bill Johnston
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 3 ST. KATHARINE DREXEL</b>
8:30 am	† Fr. Fernando Heria † Fr. Raul Angulo
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 4 ST. CASIMIR</b>
8:30 am	Birthday Blessing of Matteo Kidd, by Anna Marie Pierotti
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 5</b>
8:30 am	Wellbeing of Edgardo Diaz, by Patricio Diaz
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 6</b>
8:30 am	† Luz Gabriela Giraldo, by Daughter Bibiana Vasquez and Leo Rangel

Our deepest condolences go out to the family and friends of "Bob" one of our beloved parishioners. May his soul rest in God's peace.

† **Robert Van Epps**

REMEMBER THE SICK

Suzanne Plum, Gail Mills, Don Loughran, Jr., John Harris, Stephen Brack, Alvaro Arevalo, Paul Ristow, Matt Keyzers, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Rob Messerschmidt, Anne McCormick, Ray Wicklander, Kathy Mahoney, Linda Spitzer, Blake-Leigh Riley, Melissa Mirabile, Marge Mitchell, Rasoul Karimi, Jean Gorman, Ed Kidd, Mary Beth Vogler, Joel Rivera, Fred Zagone S.J., Anthony Cotilus, Mark Bromage, Jonathan Hughes, Donato Montanaro, William Hirsch, Gary Demberg, Bill Fuccillo, Lawrence Biondi S.J., Angela Cowherd, Michael Fisher, Sean Ennis, Danielle Barisch, Deborah Castillo, Georgianna Eschen, Ruth McKelvie, Cathy Day, Mona Terry, Bill Loughran, Douglas Ham, Taylor Ellis, Monica Albelo, James Lauber, Jul Lenihan, Marian Lenihan, Donald Bourke.

A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS



Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for the men and women that you have called to discern the calling to priesthood and religious life. We pray for your continued blessing on our Archdiocese of Miami and on all our families.

Call forth more women and men of generous spirit and fervent love whom you desire for this holy work. We make this prayer in Jesus' name,

RCIA and FAITH FORMATION



Next class will be on **Wednesday, March 6, at 6:00 pm. in the Parish Hall.**

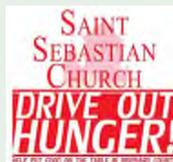
Classes are held on the **first and third Wednesday of each month** for adults who wish to become Catholic, and for adults who are baptized Catholic but have not received Communion and/or Confirmation.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST  
Conditions to receive the Eucharist

- Be a practicing Catholic and without mortal sin.
- Must confess mortal sins before receiving.
- Divorced who are single can receive.
- Those in a civil marriage or cohabitating cannot receive until they are married in the Church.

*Note: For any question or to begin the annulment process for a previous marriage, please contact the Pastor.*

*We should also make an effort to have the right attire and be punctual for Mass.*



"PLEASE REMEMBER— in addition to food and hygiene items, the Pantry needs plastic grocery bags for food distribution, and empty **clean egg cartons for 12 eggs**. You can also place these items in the shopping carts. If you

know of anyone in need, please tell them that a drive thru grocery distribution takes place every Friday from 1:30-4:00 PM at Blessed Sacrament Church, and closes at 3:15 PM. The Food Bank is currently in special need of canned meat, fish or similar protein items. Please continue your support of our neighbors in need through the SVDP poor boxes in the church.

**First time must provide proof of residency in Broward County.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!**

**St. Vincent de Paul report for January ,2026 (5 Fridays)** served 1087 clients representing 3429 individuals. The Expenses were \$4746.23

SAVE the DATE

- **Annual Luncheon at Coral Ridge Yacht Club**  
March 21, 2026

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI

**ABCD 2026**

Through the Archbishop's Charity and Development Drive (ABCD), we help bring that transforming light to others, supporting ministries that assist families, form seminarians, educate children, and serve those in need. When we give, we reflect the light of Christ in our community. May we listen to Him and respond with generous hearts. Make your donation today! [www.isupportABCD.com](http://www.isupportABCD.com).

**PLANNED GIVING:**

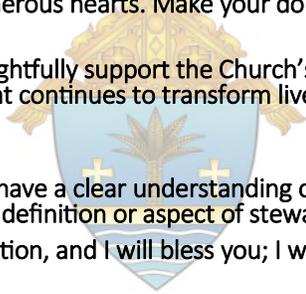
Planned giving allows us to look beyond today and thoughtfully support the Church's future. By including the parish or archdiocese in your estate plans, you create a lasting legacy of faith that continues to transform lives for generations. Visit [www.adomgift.org](http://www.adomgift.org) for more information today.

**STEWARDSHIP**

It's difficult to teach or practice stewardship, unless we have a clear understanding of exactly what stewardship is. If we wish to embrace stewardship, we must gradually learn to embrace every definition or aspect of stewardship.

"The Lord said to Abram.... 'I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.'" Genesis 12:1-2

In Baptism, God says the same thing to each of us. Stewardship is our response to our baptismal call. The stewardship lifestyle can unlock our full potential.



**BIBLE SHARING**

Join us **every Thursday** in the Parish Hall from **9:15 to 10:30 am**.

The Ministry started a new book. Don't miss it!

**The Gospel According to Saint John.**

The facilitators for this book will be **Madlean Boutram and Lourdes Fernandez, with the help of Fr. Ernest.**

You may also join us online by dialing 848-777-1212; when prompted, put in 1431434#.

For more information, please contact **Miriam Rivas** at 954-673-1522



**SUNDAY DONUTS & COFFEE RETURN**



Coffee and Donuts are back after the 8:30 AM Sunday Mass. Come and meet fellow parishioners.

**LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY**

We invite everyone to join us in **praying the Rosary, Monday - Friday, at 7:50 am, before daily Mass**, in the main Church.

**A Rosary a day keeps the devil away.**



**St. Sebastian Catholic Church**  
**SCHEDULE FOR LENT**



**PARISH MISSION**  
with Fr. Hoyer

Tuesday, March 19th, at 6:00 pm.

**PARISH CONFESSIONS**

Tuesday, March 24th, at 6:00 pm.

**HOLY WEEK** - March 29th - April 5th

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
Every Friday in the church during Lent, after Mass.

St. Sebastian Council of Catholic Women

Invites you to our

**Annual Fashion Show**



**Saturday, March 21, 2026**  
12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

At The Coral Ridge Yacht Club

**Tickets \$65.00 each**  
please contact **Kate Heffner**  
**716-491-5504**  
or stop by the **Church office**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION**

You may use this QR code to donate to our



**FOR BETTER PARTICIPATION IN THE MASS**

With your smart phone or computer, you can find Daily Mass Readings and Prayers easily. Search for: **Daily Bible Readings USCCB** or **WWW.USCCB.ORG** For Prayers, go to **Mass Prayer** or **Order of Mass**. USCCB, stands for US Conference of Catholic Bishops.